

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: N. ENDO, et al  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned  
Filed: June 14, 2001  
For: PACKET SWITCHING SYSTEM, PACKET SWITCHING  
NETWORK AND PACKET SWITCHING METHOD  
Group: 2661  
Examiner: S. Hom

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 14, 2001

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully  
submitted prior to the Rule 53(b) Continuation Application  
filed on even date.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert before the first line of the specification  
the following:

-- This is a continuation of application Serial No.  
09/079,150, filed May 15, 1998. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice or disclaimer  
of the subject matter thereof.

Please add new claims 13-17 as follows:

-- 13. A method of switching IP (Internet Protocol) packets at a packet switching system, comprising the steps of:

allocating a pair of an IP address and a port number in Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) or User Datagram Protocol (UDP) to a Virtual Channel Identifier (VCI); and

outputting IP packets whose headers have the IP address and the port number via a Virtual Connection (VC) corresponding to the VCI when the packet switching system receives the IP packets.

14. The method of switching IP packets according to claim 13, wherein the IP address is a pair of a source IP address and a destination IP address.

15. A method of switching IP (Internet Protocol) packets at a packet switching system, comprising the steps of:

allocating a pair of IP address and information for identifying an application to a Virtual Channel Identifier (VCI); and

outputting IP packets whose headers have the IP address and the information via a Virtual Connection (VC) corresponding to the VCI when the packet switching system receives the IP packets.

16. The method of switching IP packets according to claim 15, wherein the information is a port number in Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) or User Datagram Protocol (UDP) .

17. The method of switching IP packets according to claim 16, wherein the IP address is a pair of source IP address and destination IP address.--

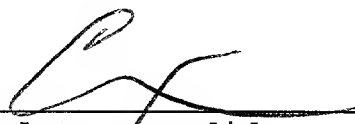
**REMARKS**

Entry of the above amendments prior to examination is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.36259CX1) .

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

  
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